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away from their communities. There's little opportunity for a significant supervision of those facilities and where the kids are. I don't think that's the way we should be building a juvenile justice system. We're also creating a dual system, one that is of Office of Juvenile Services placements, and most of these placements are not placements at Kearney and Geneva, most of these are private provider type placements, but we're building two separate systems and we need to do a better job of creating a more rational way to approach juvenile justice in this state. We also can manage these costs better at the state level. The counties are paying 100 percent of these costs. Many of these kids could be Medicaid eligible if the state changes its Medicaid definition and its contract for some of these services, we can recover 60 percent of these costs from federal...the federal government, which is what's done in a lot of other states. So, as a state, we can manage the costs better. There will be cost to the system. The original bill did not allow the takeover of the cost from the counties until after this biennium budget, giving the Department of Health and Human Services time to look at their Medicaid issues to find better ways to prepare for it and to be in a position to do that. Because of some other issues that are floating out there, this would have ended up with a significant amount of time on the agenda today, so I've chosen to bracket it to the first of the year, when we come back next year, and hopefully we'll be able to deal with this issue for the counties then. I don't want to imply that I don't think this is a critical or important issue. It is a very important issue, but we'll be back next year. So, in short review, we have done a great deal to address the needs of our two juvenile institutions through the mainline budget bill, and I thank you for your support of that. We'll be back to discuss secure confinement issues after the study is complete next year and, on this particular bill, it will be bracketed, I hope with unanimous consent, and we'll have a discussion of that next year. The department is aware that this is going to be back up next year. This was a compromise to the counties, one that was recommended by the Juvenile Justice Task Force, that they originally didn't accept but they did accept as the session advanced. So, with that, I will close and ask for your consent to bracket this bill till next session.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Thompson. There's been a